

FINAL
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD
Regular Meeting
March 28, 2022 – 6:00 PM

Cumulative Attendance					
1/2022 through 12/2022					
	Members	Appt by	Attendance	Present	Absent
1	Vacant Position	M	-	-	-
2	Douglas Meade	I	P	2	1
3	Vacant Position	II	-	-	-
4	Kelly Charles	IV	A	2	1
5	David Blattner, Chair	I	P	3	0
6	Vacant Position	C	-	-	-
7	Whitney Dutton	IV	P	2	1
8	Carolann Mazza	III	A	1	2
9	Vacant Position	II	-	-	-
10	Carol Tamburry	III	P	3	0
11	Vacant Position	M	-	-	-

Staff Present

Jason Bocchinfuso, Sustainability Administrator (Via Zoom)
 Glen Hadwen, Sustainability Manager
 Dr. Nancy Gassman, Assistant Director Public Works – Sustainability (Via Zoom)

Others Present

Alisha Lopez, South Florida Regional Planning Council
 Kathe Lerch, South Florida Regional Planning Council
 Carla Blair, Recording Secretary, Prototype-Inc

Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chair Blattner at 6:04 p.m. The roll was called, and it was determined a quorum was present.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes for February 28, 2022, were introduced. A motion was made to approve the minutes by Mr. Meade and seconded by Ms. Tamburry. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Staff Liaison Report

Landscape/Tree Ordinance Updates

Mr. Hadwen stated the first reading of the Ordinance before the Commission was on February 15, 2022, and a stakeholders’ meeting, facilitated by Commissioner Sorenson, was held on March 18, 2022. At the stakeholder meeting, five (5) of the ten (10) priority issues were reviewed. A second meeting with stakeholders is scheduled for April 21, 2022. Mr. Hadwen noted he would consult with the City Attorney to determine whether the changes would require the ordinance to go back to Planning & Zoning one additional time before the ordinance would return to the Commission.

Meeting with the new City of Plantation SAB

Mr. Hadwen shared the City of Plantation was creating their own Sustainability Advisory Board. They invited him to attend their April 11, 2022, meeting virtually. He said their Board was interested in learning how our Board operated, what worked, and what they can learn. He extended the invitation for another Board member to join the meeting.

In response to Chair Blattner's question, Mr. Hadwen confirmed the meeting is with the Board only. Chair Blattner recommended adding the information to the Exchange on Friday to give Board members the opportunity to participate. Mr. Hadwen suggested one Board member join or they would have to notice it. Vice Chair Tamburly noted she would check her schedule.

Recognition of Service

Mr. Hadwen recognized Douglas Meade for his 6+ years of service on the Board.

Mr. Meade asked what happened to the leaf blower ordinance.

Mr. Hadwen replied it was initiated over a year ago and Commission McKenzie assumed the lead on the effort. It was presented to the Commission a few months ago.

Dr. Gassman added that the report was presented in early January. Since then, she noted the Development Services Department had developed ordinance revisions based on Commission direction. She said the revised ordinance prohibited running lawn equipment on residential properties before 8:00 a.m. while the current ordinance allows use of lawn equipment to start at 7:00 a.m. The second reading of the ordinance would go before the Commission on April 5, 2022.

Presentations

Accelerating Electric Vehicle Adoption in South Florida

Alisha Lopez, Coordinator for South Florida Clean Cities Coalition, provided background of the organization and their Board. She shared the Coalition was housed within the South Florida Regional Planning Council and covers Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade and Monroe County. She reviewed the following in the presentation:

- Creating an overarching transportation electrification plan
- Establish EV fleet goals
- Maintenance and Safety
- Promote EV charging access and infrastructure
- Infrastructure: Electric vehicle charging infrastructure
- Infrastructure: Charging in public
- Electric vehicle readiness policy
- EV readiness requirements
- Promote economic development
- Expand access & equity
- Other considerations and tools

She asked the Board if they had any questions.

Chair Blattner expressed concern about the charging infrastructure distribution system. He noted plans for charging City fleets and new homes and construction but asked about charging for the average driver

on a long haul. He inquired why there were no plans to install more in-town or turnpike rest stop charging stations.

Ms. Lopez responded that Florida Power & Light plans to install charging stations on the turnpike. She said additional charging stations would be installed along I-95, I-4, and I-75. She confirmed she would provide more information when the charging infrastructure is completed.

Ms. Lopez noted the Coalition was fuel-neutral, so they focus on all alternative fuels.

Chair Blattner asked about electrifying the rail system.

Ms. Lopez responded those beginning conversations have occurred.

Presentation is attached.

New Business

USGBC LEED for Cities

Mr. Hadwen shared the City applied for the LEED for Cities cohort. He said the USGBC developed a rating system for cities as a whole which included looking at energy, water, and resilience. He confirmed the City was accepted into the cohort and training begins at the end of April 2022.

Mr. Meade spoke on road-ready golf carts. He noted they are less expensive, require less insurance, are electric, and can remove more vehicles from the road. He suggested many people work within 2-5 miles of where they live.

Mr. Dutton stated one issue with golf carts is they cannot drive on roads more than 35 miles per hours.

Mr. Meade suggested a shared or dedicated lane.

Mr. Hadwen recommended Transportation be involved in the conversation.

Net Zero Resolution

Mr. Hadwen stated the intention was to have the Board begin conversations about net zero, and electric vehicles was the first topic presented. He said one of the City's goals was to advance electrification of both the City fleet and within the community.

Net-Metering Legislation

Mr. Hadwen stated the intention was to have the Board discuss renewable energy. He noted the State recently passed a law which reduces the benefits of net metering. He described net metering. He recommended the Board discuss how to accelerate adoption of renewable energy.

Community Rating System

Mr. Hadwen said a representative of Flood Plain Management offered to attend a Board meeting in April or May to present on the Community Rating System. The System is a program run by FEMA related to reducing flood insurance premiums. He noted it was a priority for the City.

Old Business

3/15 Commission/SAB Joint Workshop

Mr. Hadwen invited the Board to share their thoughts on the joint workshop.

Chair Blattner said it was well received by the Commission. The Commission asked what was realistically possible and determined it was primarily education and outreach. They agreed to promote the need for flood insurance to residents and lobby when possible.

Mr. Hadwen said one takeaway was the Fair Foundation had the goal of expanding adoption of flood insurance.

Chair Blattner noted any subsequent workshops should include a specific ask to the Commission.

2022 guest speaker topic priorities

Mr. Hadwen reviewed the following list of topics:

- Net zero/Carbon Neutrality
- Citywide Vulnerability Assessment
- Electric Vehicle Infrastructure
- Renewable Solar Energy
- Environmental Performance Metrics
- Joint Meeting with Other Cities Planning
- Wildlife Corridors Along Canals

At the joint workshop, Chair Blattner asked the Commission to identify some additional members for the Board since there are currently four (4) vacancies and they will have another vacancy after tonight.

Proposed Communications

Termite Impact on Urban Forest Education

Chair Blattner clarified he did not draft anything after the previous meeting. He asked if another Board member still had notes.

Mr. Dutton agreed communication to the Commission would be valuable this month since it is swarming season.

Mr. Bocchinfuso pulled up the presentation.

Chair Blattner asked Mr. Bocchinfuso to forward the presentation to the Board so he could draft the communication to the Commission. Mr. Dutton suggested that Chair Blattner reach out the presenter for assistance.

Mr. Bocchinfuso said he would send previous communications as an example.

Comments

Ms. Tamburry asked about an attachment or letter regarding lobbying FP & L.

Mr. Hadwen replied he received an email from Dr. William Goetz, former Board member, who recommended topics the Board may want to consider.

Mr. Bocchinfuso pulled up the referenced presentation and Mr. Hadwen summarized the topic recommendations by Dr. Goetz, as well as City efforts.

Mr. Bocchinfuso shared via Zoom his draft analysis on City greenhouse gas emissions. He noted it was based on the 2019 calendar year as the established baseline.

Mr. Hadwen said one takeaway was to prioritize reductions in emissions from transportation, residential, and commercial sectors to make progress towards Net Zero goals.

Mr. Meade asked if there was a comparative.

Mr. Hadwen noted they had been tracking greenhouse gas emissions since 2010 and noted it had gone down over twenty percent over those years. He said it was historically difficult to calculate emissions from transportation. However, a new Google tool simplified emissions calculations for that sector.

Mr. Bocchinfuso confirmed the report will have comparison to the 2010 baseline. He noted the City is within range for the region and reminded the Board that the analysis is preliminary.

Mr. Hadwen acknowledged City's population has grown but noted net zero strategies need to be developed to address that issue. He reviewed a graph for overall energy usage for City operations showing 2010 through 2021 and noted it had reduced by almost ten percent as buildings became more efficient. He stated the City is moving in the right direction.

Chair Blattner noted the fourth Monday in May was Memorial Day.

Mr. Hadwen said if there was a holiday conflict, they would try to move the meeting. He then clarified the fourth Monday was not Memorial Day and, therefore, the meeting can remain as scheduled.

Mr. Hadwen announced upcoming events.

Items for Next Meeting

Presentations

- Presentation on the City's Community Rating System
- Increasing renewable energy in Florida

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Dutton and seconded by Ms. Tamburly to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 p.m. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

[Minutes prepared by T. Baclawski, Prototype-Inc.]